

# Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

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## Editorial

### A Look Forward

For more than twelve months our Sunday-school lessons have been studies in the Life of Christ, taken, of course, from the four gospels. These lessons will continue during the rest of this quarter and all of the next, tho for the second quarter of the year but six of the lessons will be studies in the gospels; three of the lessons are in the Acts of the Apostles, one in Hebrews, and two in Revelation. This will mean eighteen months consecutive studies in the New Testament, in all seventy-two lessons of which sixty-six have been and will be in the gospels.

Among the titles of the lessons for the second quarter are these: (1) The Resurrection of Jesus; (2) Jesus Appears to Mary; (3) The Walk to Emmaus; (4) The Great Commission; (5) The Ascension of Jesus; (6) The Holy Spirit Given; (7) The New Heaven. To aid both scholar and teacher in the study of these lessons we have arranged for a series of articles on subjects of more than usual interest. Below we give a list of them:

(1) The Resurrection of Jesus, by Professor J. Allen Miller, to include the order of events from the time of the crucifixion to the Ascension, the different theories of the resurrection, and the significance of the resurrection.

(2) The Great Commission,—An Analysis, by Professor W. D. Furry. This will be a critical and practical exposition of the great commission by Christ, and will be of special interest to our people.

(3) The Nature of Christ's Body After the Resurrection. This is a subject that has given rise to a great deal of discussion.

(4) The Giving or the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

(5) What Became of the old Jewish Sabbath? This is an important question and will be of unusual interest to our people. Brother Gillin has been asked to contribute this article.

(6) An Exposition of John 20:17, Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father, etc.

(7) An Exposition of John 21:15-17, a passage of Scripture that has given rise to much controversy.

(8) The Walk to Emmaus.

(9) The Ascension of Jesus.

The reader should remember that these articles are not to take the space usually given to the treatment of the twelve lessons of the quarter; they will be in addition to that, and occupy from eight to ten pages. These articles alone are worth many times the price of the Quarterly

which is five cents. Those who do not have opportunity to attend Brethren Sabbath schools should be sure to order this issue of the Quarterly as it will be the best we have ever issued. For the benefit of teachers and others who may want to preserve this issue of the Quarterly we will bind as many as may be desired in strong, heavy cover at ten cents each. Those desiring copies bound in this form may order thru the regular order for their Sunday-school or send us ten cents for a copy. They will be ready March 15. We should have the largest sale for this Quarterly of any ever issued by the Board.

### The Temptations of the Preacher

The superficial observer may perhaps imagine that the preacher who dwells in an atmosphere of good books, of prayer, of sacred literature, of a high and noble mission; and who also by virtue of his calling is associated with the choicest spirits, is on all these accounts shielded from the sore temptations which beset so many of his less fortunate fellow creatures. But there are temptations peculiar to his profession, which, tho they may be of a different nature, are none the less grievous and fraught with peril to his peace and usefulness.

In the first place he is likely to have in his congregation a number of indiscreet admirers who unable to discern the dividing line between needed encouragement and needless flattery, embrace every opportunity to plaster him all over with praise, thick and sticky. "That was a beautiful prayer," or "that was a wonderful sermon," and tho he may have sense enough to know that beautiful phrases do not necessarily make a beautiful prayer, or that the sermon was far below an ideal or even a tolerable excellence, yet the flattery stupefies his conscience in the matter, foils that prodding sense of duty which would make him strive for a higher excellence, and makes him satisfied with himself, and therefore *easily* satisfied. By the testimony of his unwise friends he pleases his congregation, and that will answer instead of pleasing the Lord. He is satisfied to swing along easily on this smooth level of self approval, and leave laborious climbing to those who like it.

Now out of this root springs a number of pernicious plants a few of which we will describe. The pride which this personal popularity with the congregation fosters is wounded by the spectacle of empty benches. So he immediately casts about for some device, some novelty, some "attraction" that will bring the crowd and fill the church. He advertises sensational subjects. He puts a lot of bright tinsel bait on Peter's hook, and flaunts it in the sight of the worldly fish. Instead of the gospel which he is commis-